

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): An external preparation for skin comprising an inositol derivative in which an inositol is combined with a saccharide.

2. (original): The external preparation for skin according to claim 1, wherein the saccharide is a monosaccharide and/or an oligosaccharide.

3. (original): The external preparation for skin according to claim 2, wherein the monosaccharide and/or the oligosaccharide contains glucose as a constitutional unit.

4. (currently amended): The external preparation for skin according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the inositol of the inositol derivative is myo-inositol.

5. (currently amended): The external preparation for skin according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the inositol derivative in which the inositol is combined with the saccharide constitutes 0.01 to 50% by mass of the preparation.

Preliminary Amendment

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2005/005652

6. (currently amended): A cosmetic comprising the external preparation for skin as described in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~.

7. (new): The external preparation for skin according to claim 2, wherein the inositol of the inositol derivative is myo-inositol.

8. (new): The external preparation for skin according to claim 3, wherein the inositol of the inositol derivative is myo-inositol.

9. (new): The external preparation for skin according to claim 2, wherein the inositol derivative in which the inositol is combined with the saccharide constitutes 0.01 to 50% by mass of the preparation.

10. (new): The external preparation for skin according to claim 3, wherein the inositol derivative in which the inositol is combined with the saccharide constitutes 0.01 to 50% by mass of the preparation.

11. (new): The external preparation for skin according to claim 4, wherein the inositol derivative in which the inositol is combined with the saccharide constitutes 0.01 to 50% by mass of the preparation.

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12. (new): A cosmetic comprising the external preparation for skin as described in claim

2.

13. (new): A cosmetic comprising the external preparation for skin as described in claim

3.

14. (new): A cosmetic comprising the external preparation for skin as described in claim

4.

15. (new): A cosmetic comprising the external preparation for skin as described in claim

5.